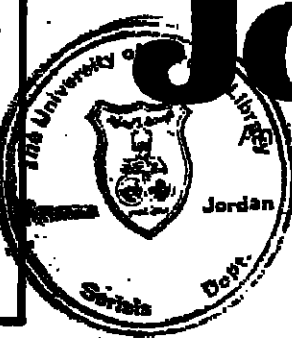


Arson attempt in Jerusalem church

TEL AVIV (R) — Arsonists pushed burning paper through a window of a Greek Orthodox Church in Jerusalem and daubed its door with a swastika, but the fire was extinguished, police said Sunday night. A swastika and the words "get out" in English were painted on the wall of another church nearby, a spokesman said. Several months ago arson destroyed a Baptist Centre and police suspect a group of extremist Orthodox Jews who have claimed responsibility for defacing graves of former Israeli presidents and other leaders.



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

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Zuhdi Terzi leaves after short visit to Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative to the U.N., Mr. Zuhdi Terzi, left Amman on Sunday after a two-day private visit to Jordan. Mr. Terzi arrived here on Friday for a "strictly private visit" to see his family, a relative of Mr. Terzi told the Jordan Times. His destination, however, was not known. Mr. Terzi's trip to Jordan was the first in a long time, the relative said.

Egypt to raise the price of newspapers

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's Supreme Press Council, which issues newspaper publication licences, announced Sunday that the price of papers would rise on Jan. 1 to five piasters from three piasters a copy. The council said the increase was the result of "huge economic difficulties newspapers are facing and the soaring printing costs." It said the present price covered only half the real cost of publishing a newspaper. It did not elaborate.

8 Solidarity leaders defy martial law decision

WARSAW (R) — Eight top Solidarity leaders have signed a defiant statement from detention refusing to accept the government's outlawing of the free trade union and vowing to fight for its revival. "The Polish crisis cannot be solved without Solidarity," they declared. The statement, dated Dec. 10, was signed by key union leaders held at Warsaw's Bialoleka prison under martial law internment orders. Three of them were released just before Christmas, when internment was ended, but the five others have been formally arrested and are under investigation on unspecified charges.

Mujahedin claim attack on Iranian base in Kurdistan

LONDON (R) — The Iranian left-wing opposition Mujahedin organisation said Sunday its forces attacked a revolutionary guard base in the western province of Kurdistan and killed more than 30 guards. The Paris office of Mujahedin told Reuters by telephone their guerrillas attacked the Javan-Kousheh base near the border town of Sardasht last Wednesday destroying the main building and ammunition depot. The guerrillas did not suffer casualties, the Mujahedin said.

Father and son killed in Sicily

NICERMO, Sicily (R) — A father and son were shot dead Sunday in Palermo in what was described as a mafia-style killing. The deaths brought the total of suspected gangland killings in the Sicilian capital to 140 this year. The two men, don Vito, a 50-year-old employee of the Sicilian government, and his son, 26, a student, were shot while parked in their car in the city centre. Gaspare Ficano's wife and two children were also in the car but were unharmed.

Po returns 5-nation tour of Asia

KARA (R) — Turkish President Gen. Kenan Evren returned home Sunday after a five-nation tour of Asia and said all the countries he visited had agreed to promote trade with Turkey. Gen. Evren's 14-day tour of China, Indonesia, South Korea, Thailand, and Pakistan was his first foreign trip since being elected president in a national referendum last month. He told reporters at Ankara Airport that the tour demonstrated Turkey's determination to open its doors to its eastern neighbours where there were great opportunities for economic and trade cooperation.

Israeli withdrawal talks begin in Khalde Tuesday

BEIRUT (R) — Negotiations with Israel on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon will open in the coastal town of Khalde about eight kilometres south of Beirut, informed Lebanese sources said Sunday.

As Israeli spokesman announced earlier Sunday that the talks would begin on Tuesday and would continue on Thursday at the northern Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona.

The Lebanon Beach Hotel, on the coast road south of Beirut, will be the venue for the first session. The town has been the scene of fighting in recent days between militiamen of the rightist Christian "Lebanese Forces" and the leftist Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) but this seems to have diminished in the past 24 hours.

The "Lebanese Forces" say the leftists had been shelling their positions in Khalde from the Druze hill village of Aaramoun. But the coast road was reopened after Khalde Saturday afternoon and reporters said the town was quiet Sunday.

President Amin Gemayel conferred with army officers Sunday and instructed them to complete security arrangements for the talks, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

The radio said contacts were being made with party leaders to

ensure the army could maintain peace and order in Khalde.

President Gemayel Sunday also met United States special envoy Morris Draper, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq AJ Wazzan, Foreign Minister Elie Salem and two civilian members of the Lebanese negotiating team. It also includes army officers.

A 30-man Israeli team was expected in Khalde shortly to make their own preparations, informed sources said.

The talks had been held up by an Israeli demand, rejected by Lebanon and later dropped by Israel, that they be held partly in Jerusalem.

No formal talks are scheduled with Syria or the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), whose forces are also supposed to leave areas of Lebanon where they are still stationed.

The Syrians have said they will withdraw when Lebanon officially asks them to. The PLO has said it will not allow its presence to be used by the Israelis as an excuse for staying in Lebanon.

Mr. Wazzan, speaking at an Islamic rally here Sunday to mark the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad, denied that an agenda or even a draft accord had been worked out with Lebanese officials.

"We said no working paper as far as we are concerned," he said.

Mr. Wazzan said Lebanon's situation was more difficult than those of other Arab countries bordering Israel.

"Sinai stayed in Israeli hands for a long time but Egypt did not fall. Golan is still so but Syria did not fall. But the Israelis are in the heart of our nation... we are in a battle with time," he declared.

Lebanese sectarian battles continue despite appeals

BEIRUT (R) — Ignoring appeals for a Christmas truce, Lebanese Christian and Druze militiamen fought battles in the hills near Beirut Saturday.

Security sources reported sporadic shelling around the coastal town of Khalde, south of Beirut, where fighting broke out three days ago.

The continuing violence dashed hopes for the first season of peace and goodwill in Lebanon since the Lebanese civil war broke out in 1975. It cast a shadow over talks due to open next week on withdrawal of Israeli troops from the

country.

Khalde is one of two sites selected for the talks which are to alternate between the Beirut suburb and Israel's northern border town of Kiryat Shmona.

According to unconfirmed estimates, up to 12 people have been killed in the latest fighting.

The dispute between Christians and Druze in the mountainous area southeast of Beirut began when the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June allowed rightist Christian militias allied with the Israelis into districts controlled for years by the Druze.

A truce arranged on Friday by Father Boulos Naaman, a monk linked to the rightwing Falangist Party, and Druze leader Walid Junblatt collapsed almost immediately.

Beirut Radio stations reported clashes on Friday and Saturday in several areas extending from Khalde to the town of Bhamdoun in the central Lebanese massif.

Clergymen and newspapers appealed without success to the combatants for a truce.

"Will Lebanon ever know a festival without grief, and will the hope revived at the end of summer vanish with autumn?" asked the French-language daily L'Orient-Le Jour Sunday.

The leader of Lebanon's Maronite Christians, Patriarch Antonios Butros Khreish, appealed for national unity and called on Lebanese to rally round President Amin Gemayel.

The violence cast gloom over the talks on Israeli withdrawal due to open next week.

State-run Beirut Radio said Saturday they might be delayed beyond the middle of next week owing to what it called Israel's latest proposals.

'Israel would insist on keeping warning posts in Lebanon'

WASHINGTON (R) — Israel would insist on maintaining "warning posts" in southern Lebanon as part of any security arrangement with the Lebanese government, Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon said Sunday.

He suggested the posts would not be permanent but said that a time frame for them would be set during negotiations between Israel and Lebanon due to open on Tuesday.

"We will insist on having Israelis in southern Lebanon to monitor the situation... that is a very important part of security arrangements," he said in a television interview. He did not say if they would be military or civilians.

Mr. Sharon, speaking from Jerusalem by satellite, said the topic was "on the working paper" for this week's negotiations.

"It is not an arrangement that should last forever... the stay of these warning posts will be decided in talks starting on Tuesday," he said.

Mr. Sharon, calling the announcement of the talks "good news for all peace-loving people," said they would focus on normalising relations between Israel and Lebanon, security arrangements and withdrawal of Israeli troops as part of a total pullout of foreign forces.

"The new year will be a year of peace between Israel and Lebanon and a move forward to all the peace process in the Middle East," the defence minister predicted.

The withdrawal negotiations, he said, represented a major breakthrough after months of secret talks with "authorised Lebanese people." He expressed hope that the United States would participate.

Mr. Sharon said Israel was not insisting on "a direct and immediate peace agreement" between it and Lebanon, although he added he saw no obstacle to any such move. The negotiations, he said, were "a kind of corridor" to a future peace treaty.

Asked if Israel insisted on linking withdrawal of its troops from Lebanon to a Syrian pullout, Mr. Sharon said: "It is important not to stand with a stopwatch and ask all the time 'When are you withdrawing?' it is more important to achieve the best security arrangement possible."

TCC links direct telephone lines between Jordan, Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has completed arrangements for opening direct telephone lines between Jordan and Kuwait through the newly established international switching centre in Amman, according to TCC Director-General Mohammad Shahid Ismail.

He said Amman subscribers can now call Kuwait numbers directly by first calling 13 followed by Kuwait's code 965 followed by the number in Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti government is now expected to take similar arrangements to enable its subscribers to make direct telephone communications with Amman, Mr. Ismail added.

European, oriental Jews clash in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV (R) — Class resentment and ethnic hostility between Jews of European and Oriental extraction, never far below the surface of Israeli society, burst into the open this weekend in Tel Aviv.

Sephardic (oriental Jewish) activists went on the rampage Saturday after police shot dead a slum resident in Tel Aviv's predominantly Sephardic southern neighbourhood on Thursday.

Shimon Yehoshua, whose family had built an illegal extension to its house, mounted the roof of the building and fired at police and municipal workers when they arrived with a demolition order.

The police fired back, fatally wounding him.

Sephardic activists called the shooting a murder and vowed revenge on what they called "the Ashkenazi (Western Jewish) establishment."

The activists' supporters took to the streets in Tel Aviv's rich northern suburbs Saturday, wrecking scores of cars and daubing anti-Ashkenazi slogans and Swastikas on the walls of buildings, including a synagogue.

Police put a 24-hour guard on the house of Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat after he received assassination threats.

Askenazi-Sephardic hostility is not new in Israeli society. It was a central theme in the 1981 general election when Sephardic supporters of Prime Minister Menachem Begin violently disrupted election rallies of the opposition Labour Party.



One of 300 defendants in the trial of Muslim fundamentalists kisses his son across the bars of the dock at Saturday's court hearing (A.P. wirephoto).

Egyptian fundamentalists deny charges

CAIRO (R) — More than 200 members of an outlawed Muslim fundamentalist organisation Sunday pleaded not guilty to plotting to overthrow the Egyptian government.

The pleas by 235 followers of the Jihad (holy struggle) group brought the number of defendants

pleading not guilty to 280.

The case involves 300 Muslim fundamentalists, 20 of whom are still at large, and arises out of events after the assassination of President Anwar Sadat in October 1981.

The prosecution has called for

the death sentence for all but three of the accused. Two defendants have died in detention.

Charges against the Jihad members also include setting up a terrorist group, killing policemen and civilians and illegal possession of arms.

Peruvian mayor shot dead

LIMA (R) — Armed men shot dead the mayor of a remote Andean village before his family's eyes on Christmas Eve, regional authorities said Sunday.

Police sources said they suspected the attackers belonged to the shadowy Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrilla group which is plaguing the Peruvian province of Ayacucho.

Pedro Venegas, 35, mayor of Machentén, was shot at point-blank range and his body was thrown into a central street with a note saying: "This is how grasses (police informants) die."

The insurgents have been waging an armed struggle against Peru's 21-month-old democracy, killing an estimated 36 policemen and 75 civilians this year.

New snow storm hits New Mexico, west Texas

DENVER, Colorado (R) — A fierce new storm dumped snow on New Mexico and west Texas Sunday at 2.5 centimetres per hour as Colorado National Guard units mopped up after the worst Rocky Mountain blizzard since 1913.

The blizzard killed at least one person, a man who left his crippled car and froze to death on Christmas Day in a field near Bennett, east of Denver.

Some 600 Colorado reservists in jeeps, lorries and snowploughs joined Denver police clearing 60 centimetres snowdrifts from streets littered with abandoned cars and searching for stranded motorists.

Acting Colorado Governor Nancy Dick declared a state of emergency Saturday night after up to 84 centimetres of snow fell on towns and blocked major highways.

Denver hospitals appealed to

owners of four-wheel drive vehicles to bring doctors and nurses to relieve staff on duty since Friday night.

Denver's Stapleton Airport, reputed to be the seventh busiest in the world, was closed over Christmas for the first time in 20 years, disrupting thousands of people's travel plans.

Police Sunday repeated warnings to residents of Rocky Mountain and Great Plains states not to travel.

The blizzard gathered on the California coast last week where it contributed to 14 deaths and levelled homes and businesses.

Meanwhile tornadoes which ripped through Arkansas and Missouri over Christmas injured more than 30 people and caused damage costing at least \$10 million, National Weather Service officials said.

Moscow appoints new ambassador to Romania

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Sunday announced the appointment of Yevgeny Tyazhelnikov, a senior party official, to be its new ambassador to Romania, succeeding Vasily Drozdov who died on Nov. 30.

Mr. Tyazhelnikov is believed to have been a protégé of the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and played a big part in building

Mr. Brezhnev's public image at home.

His replacement as head of party propaganda by Boris Stukalin on Dec. 7 was generally seen as a move linked with the more modest public style of Mr. Brezhnev's successor, Yuri Andropov, and the latter's desire to introduce more flair and imagination into the key post.

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Special ceremony to mark Prophet's birthday anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan celebrates Tuesday along with the Arab and Islamic worlds Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary.

The main celebration, organised by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs will be held Monday afternoon at the Palace of Culture under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. The Crown Prince is expected to deliver a speech on the occasion to be followed by speeches by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif and Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Ibrahim Al Qattan.

The national committee for organising celebrations on the occasion has prepared special religious programmes at mosques around the country.

The major religious celebration is to be held at the Grand Hussein Mosque downtown Amman where Mr. Sharif and other leading Muslim figures will make speeches outlining the importance of the occasion.

Alcohol banned on Prophet Mohammad's birth anniversary

AMMAN — All nightclubs, bars and liquor stores will be closed in Amman and its suburbs on the occasion of Prophet Mohammad's birthday anniversary which falls on Tuesday, according to an order issued by Amman Governor Yahya Al Mousill. The closure takes effect at 5 p.m. Monday Dec. 27 until 8 a.m. Wednesday Dec. 29.

Jordanian medical team returns from N. Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian medical team Saturday returned to Amman after participating in relief operations for victims of North Yemen's earthquake.

Its leader, Dr. Anwar Bilbeisi, said that the 17-member team toured stricken regions near Ta'iz and Dhahran to offer treatment to victims who could not be transferred to the main treatment centres in Sana'a, the capital.

The Jordanian team of 11 doctors and six male nurses was the only Arab team that visited the remote regions that were affected by the quake, Dr. Bilbeisi said.

He said that a total of 308 villages were partially or completely destroyed in the quake, killing nearly 1567 people and injuring 1600 others. Official estimates put those displaced at 400,000, Dr. Bilbeisi added.

Zaben, ambassadors confer

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communication Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben held talks here Sunday with ambassadors of West Germany and Oman in Amman. They discussed developing cooperation between Jordan and the two countries in the field of telecommunications and postal services.

Karak prepares for Arbor Day

KARAK (Petra) — The Department of Agriculture in Karak has made available 12,000 forest saplings to be planted in the governorate on Arbor Day which falls on Jan. 15.

A department spokesman said that the saplings will be distributed to schools to be planted in their yards.

The saplings have been produced by Al Bassas Nursery which has a capacity of 300,000 saplings a year.

Tawjihi exams to start Jan. 23

AMMAN (Petra) — The mid-year session of the General Secondary Certificate (Tawjihi) examinations is due to start Jan. 23, 1983, according to an announcement by the Ministry of Education.

It said that nearly 46,000 male and female students will be taking the eight-day examinations.

The students, of whom 19,500 are female, will be taking their examinations in 560 centres assigned for the purpose around the country, the announcement said. According to the announcement, the students include 27,500 in the scientific stream, 14,500 in the literary stream and 4,000 in various vocations.

It said that Jan. 13 has been fixed as the date for Arabic and English typing for students of the commercial stream, and also for students taking practical examinations in agricultural, industrial, hotel and nursing streams.

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National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar reviews photo graphs on display at an exhibition he opened Sunday at the Jordan Inter-

Continental Hotel. The exhibition is organised by the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (Petra photo)

DLDNA holds photographic exhibition

By Riyad M. Ahmad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Celebrating the National Archives Week which began Saturday, the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA) in cooperation with the Amateur Photography Club, Sunday organised a photographic exhibition on the "Historic Struggle of Palestine."

The exhibition, which was opened by National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar at the Jordan Inter-

continental Hotel, shows the cultural characteristics of Palestinian cities before they were usurped by Israel.

The six-day exhibition presents photographs pertaining to the long struggle of Palestinians against Zionists.

The exhibition also included political and geographical maps some of which show the distribution of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

The exhibition includes photographs and documents of the Great Arab Revolt. A document-

ary film on the great historic event was shown Sunday.

Dr. Ahmad Sharkas, director-general of the DLDNA, who attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition earlier this week said that Jordan has been celebrating the National Archives Week for the last four years in an attempt to attract attention and emphasise the importance of records and archives in the life of nations.

Posters and stickers, urging people to preserve and take care of posters were distributed at the exhibition.

ALO council opens meeting in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Executive Council started its twelfth session meetings in the Iraqi capital Saturday.

The council is expected to discuss during its four-day meetings several reports and issues including the ALO budget for 1984, technical agreements among member states, reports submitted

by industrial sub-committees in addition to the twelfth Arab labour meeting to be held in 1984.

The council is also considering a proposal to be presented to Asian ministers of labour calling for the incorporation of Arabic as an official language in the meeting.

The council meetings are attended by representatives of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, United Arab

Emirates, Jordan and Tunisia. Employers are represented in the meetings by representatives from Jordan, Tunisia and the president of the Iraqi General Federation of Trade Unions. The meetings are also attended by representatives of the International Federation of Arab Trade Unions and International Labour Organisation as observers.

Society urges public to avoid accidents

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA) has just issued a statistical bulletin showing that a total of 167 persons were killed and 3,564 others injured in road accidents in the country during May, June, July and August of 1982.

The bulletin said that those killed in May were 28, in June, 35, in July, 55 and in August 49 and

called on the public to take extra precautions to avoid accidents.

According to the bulletin, most of the accidents were due to overtaking and speeding and included a large number of cases involving youths who were found to be driving without licence.

However, those bearing licence and involved in accidents were 266 in May, 317 in June, 429 in July and 408 in August, the bulletin added. The JSPRA has also announced that it was opening a new branch in Irbid upon a

request by Yarmouk University professors. The JSPRA is also importing fluorescent jackets to be worn by drivers at night when they are forced to stop and mend their cars during break downs. It is hoped that these jackets will help reduce accidents, the bulletin added.

The JSPRA also announced that it received a donation of JD 300 from the Amman Chamber of Commerce to help it carry out its various projects and activities.

Abu Odeh returns from U.S.

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh returned to Amman Sunday after taking part in talks held in Washington by a Jordanian delegation led by His Majesty King Hussein with President Reagan and other senior U.S. officials. The talks dealt with Jordanian-American

relations and efforts for reaching a peaceful settlement for the Palestine problem.

Acting Prime Minister Salem Masa'deh and senior officials were at Amman Airport to meet Mr. Abu Odeh upon his arrival.



Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh (second from left), who returned from the U.S. Sunday, confers with Acting Prime Minister and Finance Minister Salem Masa'deh (to Mr. Abu Odeh's

right). To Mr. Abu Odeh's left are Ministry of Information Under-Secretary Peter Salah and the director-general of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Jawad Maraqa (Petra photo)

Soviet book exhibition opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Soviet-book exhibition, organised by the Jordan Distribution Agency (JDA) opened Friday at the University of Jordan library hall.

In an opening speech, JDA Director-General Raja Elissa welcomed the visitors to the exhibition, and pointed out that the present Soviet-book exhibition is one of the "biggest ever held in Jordan, and testifies to the friendly

relations and close ties between Jordan and the Soviet Union."

The director of the Soviet Trade Office in Amman, Mr. Ivan Pankrovtov expressed in a speech on the occasion "deep happiness" at opening the exhibition, which "stands out as a good evidence of the strong ties that characterise

the relationship between the two countries." He also extended thanks to University of Jordan, which facilitated the setting up of the exhibition on its grounds.

The exhibition, which includes 11,000 volumes of scientific, literary and children publications, will last until next Thursday.



Jordan Distribution Agency Director-General Raja Elissa (centre) and officials from the Soviet Trade Office in Amman Sunday inspect books displayed at

an exhibition opened Sunday at the University of Jordan Library

Military court jails 5 youths

AMMAN (Petra) — Five youths who were found to be guilty of taking part in several robberies have been sentenced to five years in jail by a juvenile delinquents' centre.

Mohammad Al Basatin, Samih Abu Awwad, Abdullah Nashwan, Ahmad Al Tawil and Abdul Kader Baddar were found by the military court guilty of breaking into stores and robbing a variety of merchandise.

The court also sentenced six Jordanian merchants to pay fines ranging between JD 10 and JD 200 for manipulating prices in violation of Ministry of Supply regulations.

Arab experts to discuss plans for mathematics teaching centre

IRBID (Petra) — Arab specialists in sciences and mathematics open Monday a three-day meeting at Yarmouk University to explore the possibility of establishing an Arab centre for developing the teaching of mathematics and sciences in the Arab World. The specialists come from Arab universities in addition to the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, which is organising the meeting.

Zarqa moves to enforce strict safety regulations in factories

ZARQA (Petra) — The Zarqa Public Safety Committee (PSC) says nine factories in Zarqa Governorate have so far failed to abide by safety regulations, which call among other things for establishing waste water treatment systems, a committee spokesman said here Sunday.

The proprietors of these factories will be prosecuted, he said. According to Zarqa Acting Governor Mustah Tarawneh, special inspection teams have been formed to tour factories especially those built near the Zarqa River to ensure that their treatment plants are operational for getting rid of factory waste and safeguarding public health and safety. He was speaking after a meeting which was held to review the safety committee's activities and programmes.

Charity bazaar exhibits blind women's handicrafts

AMMAN (J.T.) — A charitable bazaar, organised by the Regional Centre for the Rehabilitation of Blind Women in Jordan opened Saturday at the Alla Art Gallery.

On display at the four-day bazaar are different products of embroidery needlework, children's wear, and ladies garments made by the centre's blind students.

Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufti opened the bazaar which is designed to "encourage blind girls to develop their skills and capabilities and adapt to 'normal' society life," according to a society spokesman.

The bazaar, an annual event, includes a special wing where paintings and flowers are sold at reduced prices.

The centre, established in 1974, accommodates 60 students who can have training in sewing, making woolen clothing, weaving and home science, beside learning reading and writing to help them to earn a living.

Arab League committee to discuss coordination among its organisations

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary-General Fakhri Qaddouri returned to Amman Saturday after taking part in a meeting of an Arab League committee charged with coordinating work among various league organisations.

Participants in the committee meeting in Khartoum, Sudan, have recommended a unified formula for cooperation among Arab League organisations and between these organisations and U.N. agencies, according to Dr. Qaddouri.

He said that the formula will be discussed by Arab League and United Nations delegations at a joint meeting to be held in Tunis in the first half of June 1983.

The committee recommended that "food security" for the Arab World should be the main focus of attention by various organisations which will be submitting working papers to the June meeting, he said.

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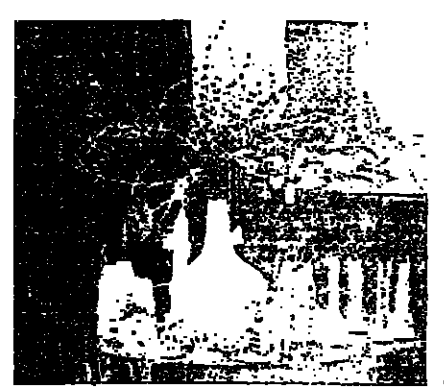
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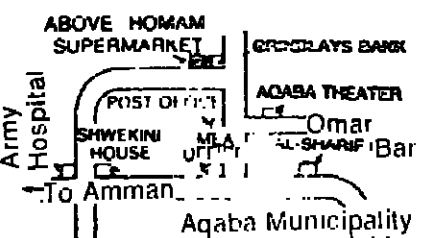
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Peace with guns

SINCE a strong and stable Lebanon is an important element for the achievement of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, it is essential that the Lebanese government be helped to extend its legitimate authority over the whole country. Now, the major obstacle to national reconciliation and unity remains to be the continuing Israeli occupation of half of Lebanon and, consequently, the presence of Syrian and Palestinian forces in the other half.

Although Lebanon and Israel have agreed on the time and venue to start negotiations aimed at a full Israeli withdrawal, there still is a tough road ahead, mainly over the nature of the negotiations. Whereas President Amin Gemayel's government wants the talks to concentrate on military pullbacks and security arrangements (Lebanon too needs guarantees that it will not be invaded again by the Israelis as it repeatedly was before), Israel is seeking a de facto peace as a price for its withdrawal and a reward for its invasion.

If Israel is permitted to impose its demands of normalising relations with Lebanon by force

and threats, there will be little hope for the success of current attempts to reunify the country and for a speedy and voluntary withdrawal of Syrian and Palestinian forces within the context of a necessary Arab consensus on the Lebanon question.

Nobody expects the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations, which will start near Beirut on Tuesday, to be smooth or short. Yet, it is evident that unless Israel was induced or made to understand that it cannot buy peace and normal relations in the area with weapons and devastation, the chance of building real peace will diminish and with it will go any chance of stability and tranquillity in the whole area.

If the Lebanese government is to be allowed and encouraged to become the sole guardian of peace and security in the country, and Lebanon the independent and sovereign state that can contribute to making peace in the Middle East, it all must be done free from Israeli interference and away from impossible Israeli demands. Otherwise, aggression will only be rewarded, and for no good cause at all.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Khalde violence--an Israeli tactic

It is no coincidence that the inter-Lebanese sectarian strife have broken out near the Khaleh suburb of Beirut. The suburb received a good shower of bombs, not long after agreement reached for starting negotiations of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, with Khalde for its alternate meeting place.

Furthermore, it is also no coincidence that Israel creates almost every day a new condition for starting negotiations.

The main purpose of these moves--definitely engineered by Israel--is to delay the opening of negotiations, and in conclusion prolong its military presence in Lebanon. This in turn would necessarily delay the opening of any new stage for establishing peace in the Middle East, and time will take care of liquidating President Reagan's initiative, which Israel had rejected as soon as it was announced.

Al Dustour: Israel stalls for time

Lebanese sectarian hostilities extended Wednesday to new parts other than the Shuf area. Now that north Lebanon have witnessed the breaking out of fresh violence for quite a long time, the south is under total occupation of Israeli forces, it is obvious that neither American pledges to see to it that Israel withdraw its forces, nor the Lebanese unanimity on electing Amin Gemayel, or the arrival at power of the Falangists and the Lebanese Front after the Palestinian evacuation of their fighters from Beirut has helped to restore stability for Lebanon or sovereignty of its government over its territories.

The multinational force has given no better conclusion, and Israel is still doing all in its capacity to achieve either of its two main goals: the chopping of Lebanon into sectarian mini-states under Israeli hegemony, or forcing Lebanon into signing a separatist peace treaty with Israel, which might help create a Lebanese role liable to be fruitful in promoting the Camp David accord, an issue in which the Egyptian effort was of no great success. The U.S. administration has altered the dates it

The U.S. administration obviously considers the coming three months of vital consequence for starting a genuine effort for motivating the peace process in the region; and Israel definitely knows that any such motivation is completely reliant on the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon.

Hence, the best target through which Israel could blow up the Reagan initiative is Lebanon.

The U.S. administration certainly knows Israeli intentions, and for this reason, it is to bear responsibility for thwarting such plans, and pressing Israel into withdrawing its forces from Lebanon before the end of the coming three months if it really gives the time factor real consideration.

What is happening now in Lebanon means that Israel is blatantly challenging the Reagan initiative, and the U.S. is to meet the Israeli challenge, aimed at its role in the region, if it really cares to see the peace process take a positive course.

had given for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and even changed the nature of the agreement according to which the Lebanese-Israeli conflict should be solved.

The permanent armistice agreement governing relations between Lebanon and Israel since 1949 has been done away with through U.S. mediation in Lebanon and the complete negligence of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Israel is trying its best to delay the starting of talks with the Lebanese authorities on the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon. Time is pre-determined being manipulated by Israel on Lebanese territory as well as on occupied Palestinian territories to create new realities, and complicate the peace process in both conditions.

The only American response does not exceed an occasional soft criticism, while the flow of its economic, military and "veto" aid are always ready to rocket into the Israeli net, whenever it is needed.

What is happening now in Lebanon gives a pretty clear idea of what kind of results will come out from American peace efforts for Palestine.

Improved U.S.-Soviet ties may be possible

The following interview with Vice President George Bush on the new Soviet leader, Yuri Andropov, was conducted by Godfrey Sperling Jr., Washington bureau chief of the Christian Science Monitor.

Vice President Bush is not predicting a thaw in U.S.-Soviet relations. But, because Soviet leader Yuri Andropov may be especially well informed about the U.S., Mr. Bush believes an improvement of ties may be possible.

In a 40-minute, year-end Monitor interview in his White House office, Mr. Bush had this to say:

Question: You've just been to Moscow for Brezhnev's funeral. How do you read the mood there? Answer: They've said publicly and they have said to us that they have a desire to have improved relations. They treated us very well and, in a protocol sense, outstandingly. They accorded us courtesies far above the rank of vice-president.

My view of Andropov is that some people make this KGB thing sound horrendous. Maybe I speak defensively as a former head of the CIA. But leave out the operational side of KGB -- the naughty things they allegedly do. Here's a man who has had access to a tremendous amount of intelligence over the years.

In my judgement he would be much less apt to misread the intentions of the United States. And you know and I know and the Democrats and the Republicans in the U.S. would just not go out and make war on the Soviet Union. And that is something which I think a political boss out of a Via-

divostok or a Leningrad might be less apt to know than a man who ran the intelligence organisation.

That offers potential. And the other side of that is he's tough. And he appears to have solidified his leadership position in a very short period of time -- although it is too early to say how long that will last. That's their internal affair. And I wouldn't speculate publicly on it. Except to say that it was very clear that he was very much in charge. So there is reason to be hopeful on the basis of this. You've got to be hopeful.

Q: The leaders were hospitable then?

A: Oh, yes. Every diplomat saw this, but I haven't seen in written. But we were halfway up the steps, and the Soviet protocol fellow came and pulled us out (Shultz and me) and put us ahead of all these chiefs of state, royal highnesses, and excellencies, and plenipotentiaries and showed us right up to the head of the line.

But it was a very noticeable to everybody. It was under TV and they could see Shultz and me walking past everybody. But this was just one manifestation of this hospitality. And he spent a total of 40 minutes with Andropov, which was a lot of time.

Q: What is the president's position on nuclear arms?

A: This president really wants a reduction in arms. Most people don't know that. Because you've got that freeze thing out there. And people out there say, "If you really want an absolute reduction in arms, you go for the freeze." And those of us who aren't for the freeze are automatically categorised as not for a reduction in arms. It's an argument I take great

offense with, incidentally.

I find it intellectually offensive to suggest that, given the history of the ABM treaty and everything else. So there is this whole kind of feeling out there. And those of us who know the president's position so well probably haven't been as articulate as we might have been in trying to make people understand that this president is absolutely convinced that we must achieve a reduction, a real demonstrable, visible reduction in nuclear weapons.

Q: Why isn't this perceived?

A: Well, if it weren't accompanied with the president's requirement that there be a strengthening of the United States defence, it would be. But it's the last caveat that causes people to say that "it's a ruse; he doesn't really feel that way."

I don't question people's integrity in this. They just don't know how strongly the president feels about all this. And I do. I see him, talk to him -- with people and alone.

Q: Does (Andropov's) own organisation dabble in the gathering of accurate information that would enable him to have accurate knowledge about the Soviet weaknesses?

A: All I would guess, based on my understanding of the intelligence apparatus, is that the person who had exposure to that would be more apt to have the objective data than one who dealt all his life with the propaganda machinery or with the party network. Not that Andropov isn't part of the party. Q: But does he have access to the information necessary to get at the real facts about Russia?

A: I think he has access. But given

his party standing and what we know of him: I don't want to make the case that he doesn't have convictions that are quite contrary to what we think the objective data should give him. He's no softy -- or anything like that.

We're still dealing with a totalitarian system -- where you don't know what's happening all of the time.

Q: Is this administration concerned that tensions between the Chinese and the Soviets may be easing?

A: So what if there is a reduction of tensions on the Soviet-Chinese border. I don't think that it is necessarily detrimental to the interests of the United States. Now, if you say to me that the Soviets are going to take 20 divisions off the Chinese border and put them into Europe, then we would say, "Hey, that wouldn't be very good," that would be destabilising.

But just to have reductions in tensions between them: I don't think that that should make us feel all up-tight. Just as if we reduce tensions with China that should drive the Soviets up the wall.

Q: Finally, your assessment of this administration at mid-term?

A: My assessment is this: Unemployment is too high. Interest rates are much better. Inflation is much better. Deficits are outrageous. We have to do something in a bipartisan fashion to get those down.

But the president turned a lot of things around. The credibility of the U.S. is much better.

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Hindu-Muslim tension in India

By Jeremy Clift
Reuters

NEW DELHI — Thirty-five years after independence when the sub-continent was carved into predominantly Hindu and Muslim nations, India is still plagued by communal violence.

In the latest outbreak, at least 12 people died and 50 were injured in three days of Hindu-Muslim bloodshed in the west Indian city of Baroda and the army has been called in to help police restore order. Two Indian newspapers called the city, 800 kms southwest of Delhi, a powder keg. The mass-circulation Indian Express newspaper said the violence had deepened communal animosities.

Communal bloodshed has been a factor in Indian politics since tens of thousands of people were massacred in Hindu-Muslim clashes at the time of independence in 1947, when a special state for the Muslim was created and named Pakistan. Despite giant population transfers, there are still at least 70 million Muslims within India's predominantly Hindu population of 680 million.

Tension between the two communities in much of northern India is often invisible, but can flare up when least expected. In October at least 29 people were killed in Hindu-Muslim clashes in the northern city of Meerut. Sometimes a riot in one city can touch off a chain reaction in other areas.

Muslims have complained of being treated as second-class citizens. Tension in Baroda was fuelled by Muslim complaints of alleged police atrocities which led to the transfer of the city's police chief. At the weekend Syed Hamid, vice-chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University, said that frequent outbreaks of communal riots in the country were eroding the confidence of the Muslims. He said that Muslims were second to none in their loyalty to the country and the air of mistrust and suspicion which he said they were regarded should be removed. Communal violence was setting back the process of national integration, he said.

Play with fire

Alleged ill-treatment of Muslims led 45 Muslim Members of Parliament to write to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi last month demanding the banning of extremist Hindu groups.

The defence and protection of minorities was the responsibility of the central government, and the police and intelligence services should be purged of communal elements, the MPs said. The text of their letter was released recently. They accused police in some states of acting in a blatantly partisan manner and said that consequently "the Muslim minority is losing faith in the neutrality of the administration and the credibility of the government as protector of the weaker sections is being eroded."

But the Times of India in an editorial accused the parliamentarians of playing with fire by becoming spokesmen for one community against another. They were not elected because they were Muslims, it said. "They have been elected by an electorate which in most cases happens to be predominantly non-Muslim. This is a fundamental issue on which there can be no compromise. For to tamper with it is to undermine the very basis on which the country's secular order and integrity rest," the newspaper declared.

Attempt to poison

The newspaper said the letter appeared to be a deliberate attempt to poison the minds of the Muslims by convincing them that they could not look up to Mrs. Gandhi and her government for protection "against the gangsters and miscreants."

The Indian Express also called for a non-partisan approach and demanded the setting up of an inquiry commission into the Baroda bloodshed to look into the underlying factors. It criticised what it called vertical polarisation between Hindu and Muslim representatives and said the issue had to be treated as a simple law and order problem.

In another editorial, the Hindu Times warned that the 45 Members of Parliament who crossed party lines to issue a collective call for a ban on extremist groups would only give a new lease of life to Hindu communalist forces. "What must be understood by all is that communal partisanship begets communal partisanship," the newspaper commented.

Attempt to formulate coordinated response to the Reagan administration's involvement in Central America U.S. Caribbean policy under fire

By Stewart Russell
Reuters

ATLANTA, GEORGIA — Reagan administration involvement in Central America and its aid policies towards the Caribbean came under heavy fire at a conference here that brought together a host of liberal and left-wing dissenters.

One of the most strident critics was former ambassador to El Salvador Robert White who appeared coldly angry when he said the United States now had no foreign policy in that country except killing people. Mr. White was removed by the Reagan administration as ambassador in February 1981, soon after it came to power, and later resigned from the State Department. He was part of a wide cross-section of U.S. dissenters, and opposition figures from the Caribbean who spoke at the meeting, organised by former Attorney-General Ramsey Clark and Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young, a former ambassador to the United Nations.

The conference objective was "to formulate a coordinated response to the Reagan admin-

istration's growing involvement in Central America and its Caribbean basin plan."

While the "coordinated response" amounted to little more than pledges by various groups that they would continue to try to shift U.S. public opinion; the meeting was a forum for views which several speakers charged were often hidden from the American people by their news media.

President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), a trade and aid package supported by most pro-Western leaders in the area but which excludes help to Socialist states, was attacked at the meeting.

Mr. Clark and others described the plan, currently before congress, as "nothing more than an attempt to retain control over dependent capitalist states."

Former Jamaica Prime Minister Michael Manley spoke of "neo-colonialist surrender" by his successor, Edward Seaga, an advocate of the plan.

Three Socialist Caribbean nations, Cuba, Grenada and Nicaragua, were specifically excluded from assistance because of their

political systems or because Washington says they are trying to subvert other nations in the region.

Singer and social activist Harry Belafonte said the concept of the U.S. plan for the Caribbean was a desirable one, "but not if it is designed to allow the military-industrial complex to go ruthlessly about its business."

Mercenary force

Former Ambassador White alleged that the United States had turned the army of Honduras into "mercenary force against a neighbour (as part of) a wild, destructive and profoundly immoral operation against Nicaragua."

Claudio Chamurru, editor of Barricadas, the official newspaper of Nicaragua's Sandinist government, told the conference there had been 400 incursions into his country from Honduras in the past three years, causing at least 150 deaths. Honduras, the closest ally of the United States in Central America, sees the left-wing rulers of Guatemala as a threat.

Peggy Healey of the Maryknoll sisters, two of whose members were killed by right-wing forces in El Salvador two years ago, said U.S. policymakers "prefer murder to the discomfort of adjusting to new realities and opportunities."

Mr. White said that all revolutionary governments in the region, Cuba included, initially sought U.S. support and were rebuffed. He added that the Reagan administration was "taking a wrecking ball to the (U.S.) foreign service -- Policy is now largely in the hands of the Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency and that is a tragedy."

"To suggest that it is Communism that causes revolution is historical nonsense," Mr. White said. "No revolutionary in his right mind in this hemisphere would start off by seeking arms from the Soviet Union."

Mayor Young, however, believed that within the State Department there was still "a group of people who know what is really going on the world and are quietly fighting to see that what is good prevails."

Mr. Young: "I don't rule out that a man like (new Secretary of State) George Shultz can put some reason and sanity into our foreign policy over the next year."

Respond

Most conference speakers called upon the United States to respond -- or ask the Salvadoran government to respond -- to a proposal last month by guerrilla forces for "a direct dialogue without preconditions" with representatives of the national assembly and the armed forces. "The guerrillas want to talk," Mr. White said. "The U.S. doesn't and that's immoral in every sense of the word."

Mr. Clark said U.S. plans to rearm Costa Rica, which dissolved its army in the 1950s and built up one of the region's most stable democracies, were "unpardonable."

"The United States is regionalising conflict instead of limiting it," the former attorney general said. Widely differing views of U.S. policy in the Caribbean were expressed by the region's pro-Western leaders when they met at Miami last week to discuss the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

The prime ministers and others who attended the sixth annual Miami Conference on the Caribbean generally applauded this overseas version of "Reaganomics," with its emphasis on private sector initiative as a motor for economic development.

The reception by enemies

By Tareq Masarwah

Al Ra'i columnist

The U.S. congressmen who received King Hussein in Washington in such a hostile way are a symptom of the unethics in American policy, and they are a real reason for the rapid collapse of the American empire. Furthermore, they are declared enemies of Third World peoples and world peace.

No arms to Jordan? We can understand if a state refuses to export arms to another state. But to make things look as if getting American arms is a paradise which only the faithful and the pure in heart can enter, and to make things look as if American arms is a token of charity which Washington gives to this or that state, is pure stupidity, ignorance and arrogance, and not politics.

No arms to Jordan? Never mind. But to say that the reason for not giving arms to Jordan is that Jordan is "hostile to peace" and is adopting rejectionist stands, and consequently, by giving arms to Jordan, it would be threatening the security of its neighbours, is an accusation which shows ignorance and bias.

Those who are hostile to peace are the ones who are occupying the territories of member states of the United Nations by means of American arms and financing.

Those who are adopting rejectionist stands are the ones who ignore the United Nations and the

president of the United States and who challenge all the principles which the international community believes in, again with the support of the U.S. Congress, U.S. funds and arms.

Those who are threatening with arms the security of their neighbours are the ones who invaded Lebanon and killed or wounded 30,000 people. They are the ones who destroyed Lebanon's cities and villages with the most sophisticated American arms and full American financing.

We do not blame the agents of Zionism in the U.S. congress. It is a free country. But we place the blame on the Arabs who deposited their funds in the U.S. treasury bonds, opened their markets wide open to American products, and mortgaged the future of their people and nation in the American slave market.

We do not blame the U.S. senators and members of the House of Representatives. They are free to act with political shortsightedness and unethics. But we blame the Arabs who are accepting such a humiliation without any excuse. The United States will never give anyone arms as good as the arms it gives to Israel; and the United States wants everyone to understand that the required peace is the peace which Israel can impose with American arms.



Fear and cold beset refugees in Lebanon

By Phil Davison
Reuter

SIDON — Faris Al-Husseini Gasto, a Palestinian refugee about 80 or 90 years old, froze to death in his tent without fulfilling his dream.

"My dream is to return to Palestine and live in peace with the Jews the way we used to," he told me when I visited Ain-El-Hilwe refugee camp near the southern Lebanese town of Sidon last month.

He was a tall man, a straight back and looked strong and fit as he sat, wearing a white headscarf, sunglasses, black coat and rubber boots, in front of his olive-colored tent. He had been in Lebanon since he fled Palestine during the Arab-Israeli war in 1948.

But when I returned last week, he was dead and his tent had gone. His wife Zoula said the tent had been leaking and he froze to death as the first torrential winter rains flooded the camp.

On the spot where the tent had been, Zoula and her relatives were building a simple stone room with 10 bags of cement and 2,000 Lebanese pounds (about \$560) provided to each family by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The coming winter cold, and fear of further killings by right-wing Christian militiamen following the massacre in Beirut in September, are the two major problems facing Lebanon's 200,000 or more Palestinian refugees, according to UNRWA.

Many of the refugees, particularly in Ain-El-Hilwe, are ill-equipped to face the cold because their homes were destroyed by the Israelis during their invasion of Lebanon in June.

There are 53,000 Palestinian refugees in and around this camp. 73,000 in Beirut, 41,000 in the southern town of Tyre, 2,800 in the northern port of Tripoli and 6,000 in the Bekaa Valley, according to UNRWA statistics.

In addition, there are many more Palestinians in Lebanon, but most of these have jobs and are not eligible for UNRWA's relief assistance.

Faris and his family had been one of the few in the camp to accept a tent from UNRWA last month to get them through the winter. Many tents were later burnt down by refugees demanding more permanent shelter and UNRWA eventually agreed to provide them with cement, supplied by Israel, and the cash.

The refugees also feel defenceless against any further massacres by right-wing militiamen, similar to the atrocities of last September in the Beirut camps of Sabra and Shatila in which several hundred Palestinian refugees and poor Lebanese Muslims were killed.

At present, the refugees in the south rely on the occupying Israeli army to prevent any attack by rightist Christians, while the Beirut refugees have French and Italian forces, who form a peace-keeping force along with United States marines, to protect them.

But if the Israelis eventually withdraw from Lebanon and the peace-keeping troops pull out, the refugees will have only the small Lebanese army to defend them.

"The Palestinians' fears are understandable," one western diplomat in Beirut said. "In a year or two, with all foreign forces gone from Lebanon, what is there to stop another massacre?"

Western diplomats and UNRWA officials are still awaiting an official pronouncement on refugee policy from the government under President Amin Gemayel.

"The thing is, the refugee issue is very much a hot potato for the government," one diplomat said.

On the one hand, they have to take into account the anti-Palestinian sentiments of many Lebanese, including the Christian militiamen. "There is certainly domestic pressure to harass the Palestinians and force them to leave Lebanon. But the government has to take into account international pressure to keep the refugees and treat them decently," the diplomat stated.

In contrast with the international outcry over the massacres at Sabra and Shatila, the killings have long been considered history by most Lebanese.

The country's military prosecutor said last week he was still investigating the massacre but that many witnesses he had called did

not turn up.

In the Shatila camp, women who saw their husbands and sons gunned down by Christian militiamen in September say they fear further massacres but have nowhere else to go.

They pointed to a seven-storey building 200 metres away from where they accused Israeli soldiers of watching the massacres, close enough to hear not only the gunshots but also the women's screams.

Foreign correspondents who got into Shatila on September 18, just hours after the massacres ended, saw the Israelis using the building as an observation post, with Israeli soldiers watching the camp through binoculars from the roof.

Many of the women in Shatila said their husbands or sons were missing and might be still alive, held by the Israelis or the Christian militiamen.

One Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim woman, Latifeh Hussein, who saw her husband killed by the Christian militiamen, burst into tears as she pulled out a photograph of her 21-year-old son, Arif, who disappeared during the massacres. She searched Shatila for his body but never found it.



Above and below left: Clearance work began in Ain-El-Hilwe refugee camp in October, to remove the rubble of homes destroyed by the Israelis during the invasion.



Largest U.N. agency accused of incompetence and overspending

Americans may pull out of FAO

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

ROME — The United States has served notice that it may consider pulling out of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) amid accusations of bloated spending by the agency entrusted with fight against world hunger.

As part of a move against rising spending by all United Nations bodies, U.S. officials said Washington has deliberately delayed payments in protest against budget boosts by the FAO, the largest U.N. agency.

But the case is complicated by the emotive issue of starvation and frequently expressed concern by the major donor countries about the way their money is spent.

The organisation's reluctance to answer probing questions about its effectiveness and accountability has brought it under criticism from several countries.

Rome's English-language newspaper, The Daily American, joined in the war of words with the FAO last weekend when it printed a 48-page supplement in which the FAO was accused of telling lies while thousands of children starved.

The U.S. conflict with the agency came to a head at a recent session of FAO's council at which U.S. delegate Roger Sorenson replied sharply to an attack by FAO's deputy director Edward West on countries that had delayed their contributions.

Closed-door meeting

Mr. Sorenson's remarks were contained in a verbatim transcript of the closed-door meeting

obtained by Reuters.

"Our policy of retarding our payments arises from a very real and growing concern... over the rising level of expenditures in the U.N. system as a whole," Mr. Sorenson said.

The policy was not directed specifically at FAO, he said, but added: "We may still have to decide which organisation of the U.N. system is least useful to us and get out."

"From that point of view... my government has put it to me that the U.S. contribution to FAO amounts to \$120,000 a day, day in day out, Saturday, Sunday, every day of the year."

Mr. Sorenson added that the administration had pointed out to him that an alternative use of the money could be to give every developing country that was a member of the organisation \$400,000 per annum in direct aid for agriculture.

FAO sources said it was the first time the U.S. had come out so strongly in favour of bilateral aid, which is anathema to FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma and his aides.

The United States is the single biggest donor to FAO, providing some 25 per cent of the budget, followed by Japan, West Germany, France and Britain.

Major donor countries are still irritated about the FAO's latest biennial conference which overwhelmingly approved a massive rise in the 1982-83 budget to \$367 million from the 1980-81 level of \$278 million, despite their strong objections.

Under the U.N.'s one-country-one-vote system, 10 countries pay over 70 per cent of FAO's costs but have only a small

Randa Habib's CORNER

Drivers I have known...

In Amman we have all sorts of drivers. Male drivers, that is. There is the one who tries to prove his virility while driving. This type of driver treats his vehicle as if it was a tank. With much noise and squealing brakes, he enjoys being noticed.

There is the driver who is in a hurry and shows it. Driving in a zig-zag he squeezes himself into every possible space. At a red light, even if he wants to go straight ahead, he manages to get to the front of the left-turn filter lane, and as soon as the central light turns green he overtakes all the other cars.

There is the driver who is in no hurry at all, and who also shows it. He drives in the middle of the street, a dreamy smile on his face. Sometimes he even sings along with his radio. He is happy, has all the time in the world and is not at all bothered by your irritated honks. If he does not feel like taking his right of way, he won't do it, despite your efforts to show him that he is blocking the road. On the contrary he will criticise you and all the other drivers for being nervous and aggressive. If he feels like driving in the middle of the street, you have to put up with it.

There is the Don Juan of the road, the one who honks each time he sees a skirt passing. His eyes are everywhere except on the road. It is often this driver who drives into your car from behind, because he was too busy watching women passing by to realise that you had stopped.

There is the driver who thinks he always has priority whether he is in the inside or outside lane of a roundabout, in a main street or coming from a side street. Authoritatively, he heads his car straight at you, and if you do not stop in time and give way to him he will look at you in a way that clearly demonstrates what he thinks of you.

There is of course also the perfect driver who obeys all the rules. But unfortunately I don't often come across him.

voice in the 152-member organisation.

Western countries are also concerned about efficiency and accountability in FAO, both of which were shown to be lacking by an official auditors' report this year.

Chaotic bureaucracy

The report, by the U.N.'s external auditor at FAO, painted a picture of chaotic bureaucracy, uncontrollable budgets, incompetence and delays.

The auditor's discoveries included:

-- an African project that took four times longer than planned to complete and cost an extra \$200,000 because the man initially appointed to head it was found to be unsatisfactory and had to be replaced.

-- FAO officials broke their own rules by advancing over \$13,000 without receipts to government officials for "good and services" on a project in Asia.

-- also in Asia, a three million dollar animal health project was impeded by budget problems and had not fulfilled all its objectives after seven years in operation.

-- a plan to help an Asian country set up a cotton industry was running half a million dollars over budget and had achieved only one of its nine designated objectives after a decade.

Self-evaluation

The FAO secretariat under Mr. Saouma has constantly insisted that "self-evaluation" is the order of the day and although it has commissioned private efficiency

studies, these have never been published.

Criticism from within FAO itself is not encouraged, employees say. The Director General's attitude to inquiry was indicated by his appearance before a West German parliamentary economic co-operation committee last year.

A committee spokesman said: "Mr. Saouma was clearly not used to appearing before a democratically-elected control body."

The Lebanese-born Mr. Saouma, whose total salary exceeds that of the president of the United States, was re-elected by an almost unanimous majority for a second six-year term as Director General at the last FAO conference. He was the only candidate.

The Rome Daily American weekend report claimed that from being an efficient, humanitarian organisation, FAO had degenerated into "an arrogant, over-budgeted and barely effective bureaucracy."

Robert Cunningham, publisher of the newspaper and communications director of the Republicans Abroad organisation, the overseas branch of President Reagan's Republican party, said he would take the paper's campaign to Washington.

Mr. Cunningham said he would distribute copies of the supplement, which reprinted press attacks on FAO bureaucracy and secrecy, to President Reagan and every member of Congress.

Following Mr. Sorenson's warning about a possible shift in U.S. policy, FAO officials are privately deeply concerned about the effect on U.S. public opinion of such criticism and said an official reaction would be issued soon.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:35 Cartoons
18:15 Children's Programme
18:45 Religious Programme
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 Arabic Series
20:30 Special Programme on Prophet Mohammed's Birth
21:10 News in Arabic
21:30 Programme Contd.

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: House Call
21:30 One Hundred Great Poems
22:00 Sunday and French
22:15 News in English
22:30 Hart to Hart

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 KHz, FM & parity on 9500 KHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:15 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Pop Session
09:00 News Summary
09:15 Pop Session
09:30 News Bulletin
09:45 Instruments
10:00 Music Time
10:15 Concert Hour
10:30 News Summary
10:45 Instruments, Old Favorites
11:00 First Spin
11:15 News Summary
11:30 Animal, Vegetable, Mineral
11:45 News Bulletin
12:00 Evening Show
12:15 News Summary
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24:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz
06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Bolton
06:45 6046 Later News 06:55
Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* Paintings from the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
* Soviet book exhibition, at the University of Jordan library.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lawabach, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 43453.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 72521.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsi, 663249.

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre Tel. 41320
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hosoda Youth City 067181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355

MUSEUMS

* Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Jordan. Information department at Amman Airport Tel. 92305-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:55 Agaba (RJ)
09:00 Damascus (RJ)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:40 Dhahran (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:50 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:50 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
14:20 Moscow (RJ)
14:35 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 Tunis, Athens (TJ)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:30 Baghdad (RJ)
16:35 Cairo (RJ)
17:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:20 Athens (GF)
18:30 Cairo (EA)
19:20 Cairo (RJ)
19:30 Baghdad (RJ)
19:35 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
20:15 Beirut (RJ)
20:40 Beirut (MEA)
21:00 London (BA)
21:05 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
22:30 Baghdad (RJ)
00:30 Cairo (RJ)
00:45 Baghdad (RJ)
01:45 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:15 Damascus (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:40 Beirut, Paris (AF)
07:50 Cairo (EA)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Tripoli, Madrid (RJ)
11:30 Athens (GF)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Ismail, Bucharest (RJ)
12:35 Cairo (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:20 Moscow (SU)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)

LOCAL CURRENCY RATES IN JLS

Belgian franc 75.3 / 75.8
Dutch guilder 133.5 / 134.3
Egyptian pound 323.4 / 328.4
French franc 52 / 52.3
Iraqi dinar 589.5 / 600.7
Italian lire (for 100) 25.4 / 25.6
Japanese yen (for 100) 148 / 148.9
Kuwaiti dinar 121.4 / 124.4
Lebanese lira 95.4 / 96.3
Omani rial 101.6 / 102.3
Qatari riyal 96.9 / 97.5
Saudi riyal 102.7 / 103.4
Swedish crown 176.2 / 177.3
Swiss franc 64.4 / 64.9
Syrian lira 96.3 / 96.6
U.A.E. dirham 504 / 507.4
U.S. dollar 353.5 / 354.5
W. German mark 147.5 / 148.4

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local currency rates in Jls
Belgian franc 75.3 / 75.8
Dutch guilder 133.5 / 134.3
Egyptian pound 323.4 / 328.4
French franc 52 / 52.3
Iraqi dinar 589.5 / 600.7
Italian lire (for 100) 25.4 / 25.6
Japanese yen (for 100) 148 / 148.9
Kuwaiti dinar 121.4 / 124.4
Lebanese lira 95.4 / 96.3
Omani rial 101.6 / 102.3
Qatari riyal 96.9 / 97.5
Saudi riyal 102.7 / 103.4
Swedish crown 176.2 / 177.3
Swiss franc 64.4 / 64.9
Syrian lira 96.3 / 96.6
U.A.E. dirham 504 / 507.4
U.S. dollar 353.5 / 354.5
W. German mark 147.5 / 148.4

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

There will be medium and high clouds, a rise in temperature is expected. Winds will be variable. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C

Amman 5/16
Agaba 10/20
Djessra 6/17
Jordan Valley 9/19

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 15, Agaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 57 per cent, Agaba 38 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, police 150
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 66111
Fire headquarters 2209-3
Police 192, 2111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32
Shamsi Hospital 60931-5
Al-Khaznaji, J. Amman 44281-4
Al-Khaznaji, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malheur, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shamsi 664171-5
Shamsi Hospital 60931-5
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Amman 667158
Al-Musayyid Hospital 66727-2
Tahseen, Amman 665292
Al-Ahli, Amman 664104
Italian, Al-Muhajir 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 75111
Army, Marik 91011

NIGHT DUTY

Dr. Suleiman Al Attar 74203

GENERAL

Dr. Moussa Ahmed Bashir 38356 234
Nairouth pharmacy (24 hrs.) 23672
Al Safa's pharmacy 74054
Hashim pharmacy 665295
Al Rawashed pharmacy 664033
Tahsin 44601
Jenatani taxi 39655
Khalid taxi 23715
Waddah taxi 812454
IRIB:
Dr. Ahmad Bashawi 73925-74446
Jerusalem pharmacy 3445
ZARQA:
Dr. Mustafa Al Fayyadh 83031
Al Sharab pharmacy (---)
Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Mistary Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 660412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.
Apple (African) 240 / 250
Apple (American) 200 / 150
Apple (Double Red) 200 / 150
Apple (Golden) 200 / 150
Apple (Turkish) 220 / 180
Apple (French) 280 / 250
Apple (Stark) 200 / 150
Banana 260 / 200
Banana (Mekammar) 225 / 180
Beant 400 / 350
Beet 160 / 120
Bonat 200 / 160
Bonat 200 / 160
Cabbage 110 / 90
Carrot 130 / 100
Cauliflower (white) 230 / 200
Chickens 620 / 520
Coconut 380 / 300
Cucumber (large) 450 / 400
Cucumber (small) 550 / 500
Dates 200 / 160
Eggplant (large) 180 / 140
Garlic 500 / 400
Grapes (white) 400 / 300
Grapefruit 110 / 90
Guava 250 / 200
Lemon (local) 130 / 100
Marrow (large) 300 / 180
Marrow (small) 200 / 150
Onion (dry) 90 / 70
Onion (green) 140 / 120
Oranges 260 / 200
Oranges (Mandarin) 100 / 120
Oranges (chemouli) 100 / 120
Oranges (local) 140 / 100
Pepper (Sweet) 360 / 300
Pepper (Hot Green) 600 / 500
Potatoes 140 / 120
Spinach 180 / 150
Tomatoes 180 / 140
Turnip 150 / 120

SPORTS

Little chance left for England of saving Ashes against Australia

MELBOURNE (R) — A disastrous final session in which they lost seven wickets for only 67 runs dashed England's hopes of a commanding first innings total on the first day of the fourth cricket test against Australia here Sunday.

At close of play England, who need to win both this test and the final international in Sydney next month to retain the Ashes, were all out for 284.

Earlier a spirited fourth-wicket partnership of 161 between Chris Tavaré and Allan Lamb took the tourists to the heady heights of 217 for three with the Australian attack seemingly at their mercy.

But after their dismissals in quick succession for 89 and 83 respectively, the England batting collapsed and only Ian Botham with 27 in 38 minutes showed any fight.

A noisy crowd of more than 64,000 crowded the vast Melbourne cricket ground Sunday to watch Australian skipper Greg Chappell toss with his opposite number Bob Willis.

Chappell won and for the third time in the series had no hesitation

in asking England to bat.

Chappell's decision was immediately vindicated when he caught Graeme Fowler off Rodney Hogg for four to equal Bobby Simpson's Australian record of 110 catches in test matches.

He then broke Simpson's mark when he snapped up another edge from Geoff Cook off Jeff Thomson for 10, to leave England precariously placed at 25 for two.

Chris Tavaré, batting in his favourite position of number three, and David Gower took the score to 56 before Gower was dismissed in the first over after lunch for 18, caught by Rodney Marsh behind the stumps off Hogg.

The stage was set for another England batting disaster but Tavaré and South African-born Allan Lamb had other ideas.

They courageously took the fight to the bowlers with Tavaré at last revealing in a test match the strokes he regularly displays for his county side, Kent.

The pair scored at more than a run a minute in the afternoon session, posting the 150 in 213

minutes and at tea the total had reached 183.

Tavaré was particularly severe on off spinner Bruce Yardley, slamming five fours off two overs, while Lamb continued in the vein which has made him one of the England successes on tour.

The pair reached their 150 partnership in 139 minutes, with the last 50 taking only 34 minutes, before Yardley took his revenge.

The lean Western Australian first caught Tavaré brilliantly at gully off Thomson, then 10 runs later induced Lamb to hit a catch to John Dyson at mid-wicket.

Botham, greeted with a great roar from the crowd, promised briefly to play one of his spectacular test innings before turning Yardley to Kepler Wessels at short leg.

The remainder of the batting succumbed meekly to Yardley, who finished with four for 89, and Hogg, who captured four for 69.

Thomson took two for 49 but Geoff Lawson, Australia's leading pace bowler in the series, was unsuccessful for once, conceding 48 runs off 17 wicketless overs.

American Bauer reaches final of S. Australian Open

ADELAIDE (R) — American Mike Bauer, a 21-year-old Californian playing in only his third grass court tournament, reached the final of the South Australian Men's Tennis Open here Sunday.

Bauer defeated the U.S. and Wimbledon junior champion, 17-year-old Australian Pat Cash, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, and in Monday's final will meet speedy Australian Chris Johnstone.

Johnstone beat compatriot Brod Dyke 7-6, 6-3 in the other semi-final.

Bauer's defeat of the fourth-seeded Cash knocked the last seed out of the tournament, but his victory looked unlikely after he dropped the opening set tie-break and trailed 0-40 on his own serve in the first game of the second set.

Three successive aces saved him but the young Australian still seemed stronger as the two headed into a second tie-break. However, Cash missed two relatively easy volleys to drop the set and the match was level.

In the final set, Bauer's strong serving left Cash without an answer and a solitary break midway through the set sewed up a fine win for the American.

Boxing: It's like ballet dancing

NEW YORK (R) — Some days before his brawl with Aaron Pryor in November in Miami, the gentlemanly Alexis Arguello said that in its ideal form boxing was akin to ballet.

"When your opponent is after you, you dance away and make him miss," Arguello said. "It's like ballet dancing, and to me that makes boxing beautiful."

After the fight, Arguello lay motionless in the Orange Bowl ring, blood streaming from cuts on his nose and around his left eye, as handlers used oxygen to revive him after he had taken more than a dozen unanswered blows to the head.

It was a horrifying, sickening vignette, and, for nearly four minutes, the hushed crowd did not know whether Arguello would regain consciousness. Fortunately he did and, according to his doctor, the popular Nicaraguan did not seem to suffer serious damage, although he was not taken to a hospital for examination.

Less than 24 hours later, South Korean lightweight Duk Koo Kim lay unconscious in a Las Vegas ring and is given no chance of surviving.

Rarely, if ever, has boxing been dealt such a devastating twin blow in such a short time, and because of it questions are again being raised as to whether boxing is a sport or, in some cases, even legalised murder.

Once again, the controversy is raging. On the one hand, many columnists and commentators are

condemning boxing as a barbaric endeavour, while on the other the sport's defenders, many with a vested interest in its survival, contend that improved safety measures are the answer.

Bob Arum, who promoted both the Arguello-Pryor and the Ray Mancini-Kim title fights in November, has called for a two-month boxing moratorium while a panel of medical experts tries to determine how ring injuries can be minimised.

Arum's recommendation was met with cynicism by many boxing people who were quick to note that during the next month his main promotional rival, Don King, has four major title fights while Arum has none scheduled.

Some of those cynics point out that Arum still promotes fights involving former lightweight and welterweight champion Roberto Duran, even though the Panamanian's skills and reflexes have been eroded, leaving him only a shell of what he was in his glorious prime.

Again, calls for mandatory use of headgear, larger gloves and shorter fights are being heard and, almost assuredly, will be ignored, just as they were after previous ring tragedies.

None of those proposals would automatically preclude boxing deaths or serious injury.

"Headgear is mandated in most amateur fights, but fighters have still been killed while wearing it. Headgear may lessen cuts, but it does not reduce the impact of a powerful punch," said Dr. Edwin Campbell, the veteran medical director of the New York State Athletic Commission.

"There is no absolute solution, but there are other remedies," he said. "For one thing, brain scans should be mandated for all fighters who have been knocked out, as is required in New York."

"Also, ringside physicians should have the authority to stop a fight during a round, as is the case in New York, and not just in between rounds. And the distance of title fights should be shortened," Dr. Campbell said.

"Why should a fight have to last 15 rounds? As a fight goes on, particularly when one or both fighters are absorbing considerable punishment, the danger of serious injury increases, since a boxer's ability to defend himself is lessened. There's no reason why title bouts can't be shortened to 10 rounds."

On the question of larger gloves—eight-ounce gloves are used in most bouts—Dr. Campbell said: "Thumbless gloves, not larger gloves, are what is needed. We're using them in New York State and, besides reducing the incidence of eye injuries, they also deliver a far less lethal blow."

Boxing's supporters maintain the sport has far fewer fatalities than is popularly assumed. Herbert Goldman, managing editor of Ring Magazine, said that according to the magazine's records, 348 fighters have died since 1945. But he said boxing deaths had declined sharply over the last 30 years.

He said 22 fighters died of ring injuries in 1953, compared with four last year and four so far this year. "But when you take into account the fact that there are an estimated 20,000 pro and amateur boxers in the world, fighting a total of perhaps 60,000 fights a year, that isn't a very large number."

He did point out, however, that there are far fewer fighters—and thus fewer fights—now than there were in the 1940s and early 1950s, when boxing's popularity was at its peak.

Some boxing observers say television is partially to blame for at least some ring injuries and deaths by rushing many young fighters into title bouts.

They also blame the rival World Boxing Association and the World Boxing Council for promoting relatively inexperienced fighters to title status because of political considerations and then permitting them to fight superior boxers.

Until the 1960s, fighters rarely fought in long title bouts until after they had scores of fights of short duration. "Nowadays, kids

with only a few fights are rushed into 10-round bouts and some into 15-round title bouts," Dr. Campbell said.

"And they're not ready. I doubt if a kid like Duk Koo Kim, who had never fought outside of the orient, was ready for a 15-round fight against a puncher like Mancini."

Still, ring physicians agree that a single blow to the head, and not necessarily an accumulation of punches, can be fatal.

No one has questioned the judgment of referee Richard Green, who halted the Mancini-Kim fight as soon as Kim hit the floor after taking a tremendous right from Mancini—the blow that doctors say inflicted serious brain damage.

And no one at ringside in Miami felt South African referee Stanley Christodoulou had been remiss in not halting the Arguello-Pryor bout sooner.

When Briton Johnny Owen suffered a fatal brain injury in a bantamweight title fight against Lupe Pintor in Los Angeles two years ago, the attending physician, Dr. Bernhard Schwartz, was asked if a single blow could have inflicted such damage.

"Sure, if it happens to be struck just right," he replied.

Defenders of boxing point out that twice as many young Americans have died in gridiron football games this autumn than the number of ring fatalities. But critics say those deaths were accidental, whereas in boxing the objective is to render your opponent senseless.

Alexis Arguello recently recalled how he once ignored the advice of a promoter trying to drum up interest in a fight.

"The promoter told me that to help sell tickets I should say I'm going to kill my opponent," Arguello said. "I told him: 'That's not me, sir. I'll do anything you want, go to press conferences and make appearances, but don't ask me to say anything like that. I do not want to kill anyone.'"

Nor, most certainly, do any other fighters.

Row erupts among Pakistani cricket officials

KARACHI (R) — Pakistani cricket fans' joy at their side's commanding position in the second test against India turned sour here Sunday when a new row broke out among officials of the sport.

The row erupted on the rest day of the test which Pakistan is poised to win with India still needing 165 runs to avoid an innings defeat with only three wickets in hand.

Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Nur Khan told reporters the dispute involved board secretary Arif Abbasi and board member

Ejaz Butt. Butt was the manager of the Pakistani test side which toured Australia last year and is a former chief selector.

He said at a board meeting Saturday the two officials had been involved in a slanging match over a disagreement about commercial sponsorship of the game. He gave no other details.

"They did not come to blows but it was totally unbecoming of them," Nur Khan said.

He said both officials had been

ordered to tender unconditional apologies for their behaviour within two days or the board would take unspecified action.

During the past nine months Pakistani cricket has been hit by a series of rows ironically coinciding with a resurgence of Pakistan's international reputation in the sport.

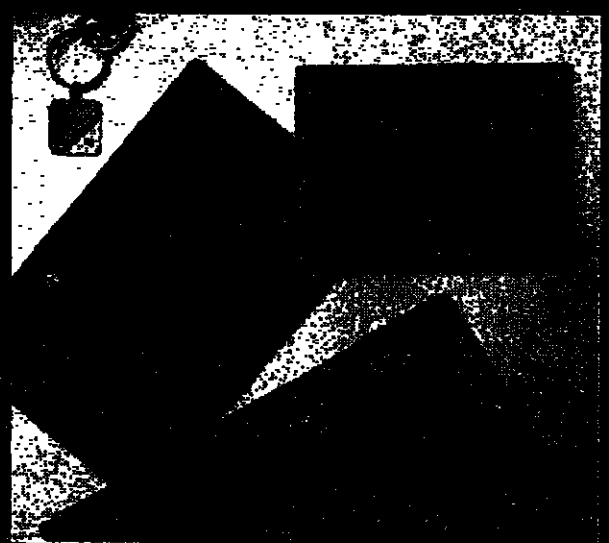
Earlier this year a players' revolt led to the replacement of Javed Miandad by Imran Khan as captain.

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AMMAN WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTING FIRMS

Amman water distribution system: Construction of reinforced concrete service reservoirs.

The Amman Water and Sewerage Authority invites experienced civil engineering contractors to apply for registration forms for the pre-qualification of tenders for a construction contract forming part of the above project.

The work will comprise the construction of 14 reinforced concrete ground level reservoirs, each having a capacity of 12,000m³ and 3 elevated reinforced concrete reservoirs, each having a capacity of 450m³.

All the reservoirs will be in the Amman region and the work will be divided into two separate contracts of roughly equal size.

The construction period will be 15 months. Only those firms capable of meeting such a construction programme need apply for pre-qualification.

Contractors should apply for registration forms to:
The Amman Water and Sewerage Authority
P.O. Box: 2412, Amman

Cable: AWSA - Amman - Jordan

Tlx: 22439 AWSA - JO
and completed forms should be returned to the above address not later than 12 February 1983.

Mohammad Al Kilani
General Manager
Amman Water and Sewerage Authority

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in the Jordan Times

The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied by full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently

bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail on the following conditions:

1. Full payment in cash or cheque accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 7.500.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
5. For the minimum price of JD 7.500, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 7.500 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 15, three insertions cost JD 22.500 etc.
6. For a larger ad, the rates are JD 10 for 40 words and JD 12.500 for 50 words.
7. You can take advantage of the Jordan Times advertising by mail facility by completing the form below and mailing it with full payment in cash or cheque to:

Advertising Department
The Jordan Times,
P.O. Box 6718,
Amman, Jordan.

(write one word only per box - please print)

Please publish the above advertisement in the Jordan Times on _____ day (s). Enclosed is payment of _____

Name:
Address:
Signature:

TAIWAN/ROC
BUILDING MATERIAL & FURNITURE
SAMPLE & CATALOGUE
SHOW

TIME: 3pm - 9pm
DATE: December 28, 1982
PLACE: Jordan Intercontinental Hotel
Jabal Amman P. O. Box 35014
Tel: 41351

Seventeen (17) companies from Taiwan, the Republic of China will hold this very comprehensive and stimulating Sample and Catalogue Show of Building material & Furniture. Many of the products and materials to be exhibited will be new to the Middle East and some of the exhibitors are looking for local agents.

Products on the show will include: various kinds of blinds, plastic bamboo, wooden doors, artificial marble furniture, carved wooden wall decoration, PVC engraved door sheet, aluminum tambour board, wooden pole set & bathroom accessories, and various kinds of furniture, etc.

At the show you will meet the executives of the 17 companies for a face-to-face contact and we are sure that you will find this Show of great interest. We look forward to meeting you at the show.

FAR EAST TRADE SERVICE INC.
201 Tun Hwa N. Road Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Local Contact: Far East Commercial Office, Commercial Dept.
P. O. Box 2604
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 41526, 41530
Telex: 21303 JDEM JON

NEWS IN BRIEF

USSR will boost gas output

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet natural gas production will be 35 billion cubic metres higher this year than in 1981, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Sunday. It gave no production figure, but earlier this year the official TASS news agency said Soviet gas output in last year was 465.3 billion cubic metres.

S. Africa may strike big oil wells

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has a good chance of finding oil in viable quantities after recent successes in its offshore drilling programme, the general manager of the state-financed exploration company said Sunday. Dr. Piet Van Zyl of the Southern Oil Exploration Corporation (Soekor) told South African radio the existence of good source rock around the coast and improved drilling techniques created a favourable climate for a significant discovery. He said to be worthwhile developing a well would have to yield at least 20,000 barrels of oil and 125 million cubic feet of gas a day, with at least 15 years reserves.

S. Arabia commends Nigerian role

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has no differences of opinion with Nigeria in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the official Saudi Press Agency said Saturday. The agency quoted a responsible source in Riyadh as denying press reports which it described as speculation aimed at weakening OPEC and causing dissension and divisions among its members. The agency did not specify where or when the press reports referred to by its source had appeared, or what alleged differences the reports had referred to. Saudi state radio said in a commentary last Tuesday that Nigeria, Venezuela, Iran and Libya were discounting on the OPEC reference price of \$34 per barrel of crude oil. Saudi Arabia has also said Nigeria, Libya and Algeria ought to charge higher differentials for their quality crudes.

Japan to reinstate tariff cuts on tobacco, sweets

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government Saturday decided to reinstate tobacco, chocolates and biscuits in a list of 75 items on which import duties are to be cut next April, economic planning agency officials said.

Opposition from leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Wednesday forced the government to postpone tariff cuts demanded by the United States on tobacco and the European Community on confectionery.

The agency officials said LDP leaders Saturday agreed to the reduction in import duties on the items after the government promised measures to help domestic industries affected by the tariff cuts.

A five-point market-opening package approved at a meeting of economic affairs ministers Saturday also calls for increased imports of six agricultural products, including peanuts and non-citrus fruit juices, and tobacco, the officials said.

Other measures included improved import inspection procedures and strengthening of the government office of trade.

The officials said the 75-item list would be sent to the official tariff council for endorsement.

They said the tariff on tobacco would be lowered from 35 per cent to 20 per cent and that on

chocolates from 31.9 per cent to 20 per cent. The biscuits tariffs would be reduced to 20 to 24 per cent from 31.9 to 36.3 per cent.

In addition to measures announced in May aimed at opening up Japanese markets to the outside world, the government has been trying to push through new tariff cuts prior to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's visit to the United States next month.

The ceiling for groundnut imports will rise to 50,000 tonnes a year from the average of annual quota for the past three years of 49,800 tonnes and imports of non-citrus juice will be permitted up to 5,000 tonnes a year from 4,300 tonnes.

Meanwhile, the Japanese finance ministry Saturday proposed an austere 1983 state budget which showed the lowest year-on-year rise in nearly three decades.

Ministry officials said the budget for the fiscal year starting April 1 would total 50.379 billion yen (\$210 billion), compared with the original 1982 budget of 49.680 billion yen (\$207 billion) which was 6.18 per cent larger than the preceding year.

The proposed budget is expected to be formally adopted by the cabinet on Friday. It will be presented to parliament when it resumes late next month.

GCC recommends more studies on customs unification

BAHRAIN (R) — Finance Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council Sunday recommended more studies on proposals for unification of customs duties on foreign goods, council Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara said.

The ministers from Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) made the call at the end of a meeting held to consider a report prepared last week by the council's customs directors on coordination of customs rules and regulations.

Customs levies vary widely in the six oil states which import almost everything for their combined population of 12 million people.

Bahrain's Finance Minister Ibrahim Abdel Karim, said the

customs directors would meet again soon and their gathering would be followed by a special conference of the finance ministers to consider the result.

The ministers had been expected to elect one of their numbers to chair the board of directors of a \$2.1 billion Gulf Investment Corporation set up last month at a summit here.

Mr. Bishara said the election did not take place because only Kuwait and the UAE had so far ratified the agreement.

The board of directors of the corporation, to be based in Kuwait, would be composed of the finance ministers.

The council was created in May last year following political upheavals in Iran and Afghanistan.

CIA report shows USSR GNP rise below statistics

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet economy has been growing, but at a slower rate than official Soviet statistics show, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said Saturday.

A CIA report said the Soviet Gross National Product (GNP) had grown by an average 4.7 per cent annually between 1951 and 1980 compared with an official Soviet figure of 7.4 per cent.

This compared with an average 3.4 per cent for the United States. The report was published by the joint economic committee of Congress.

Japan sets sights on Indian car market

Japanese companies, such as Honda, Toyota and Suzuki, are poised to capture a major stake in the European-dominated Indian automobile market.

Following the Indian government's decision in the spring to award a key "people's car" project to Suzuki, about eight Japanese manufacturers have started talks to link up with Indian companies to produce scooters, other two-wheelers and light commercial vehicles.

The Indian government wants to quadruple the country's output of vehicles by 1990 so there is, in theory, plenty of room for both the existing companies of mainly European origin and the new Japanese arrivals.

The Japanese, however, look set to cater for most of the growth in the assembly of cars, vans and two-wheelers.

They are also expected to lead an onslaught on the motor com-

ponent industry and set up new Japanese-based production units to ensure they receive adequate reliability and quality of components when they gradually start manufacturing their products in India during the next three to five years.

To begin with, they will merely assemble knocked-down kits supplied from their factories in Japan, with maybe only 20 to 30 per cent of products — or even less — being made in India.

The Indian government is likely to try to insist on their gradually moving towards a 90 per cent Indian content — a high percentage by the standards accepted by Japan elsewhere in the world.

Japanese manufacturers have already made significant inroads into other Asian car markets, such as Indonesia, which they dominate with knocked-down assembly operations.

Until about a year ago, how-

ever, neither they nor any other significant Japanese industry, had shown much interest in setting up assembly plant in India.

Japanese industrial investment in India totals only about 2 to 3 per cent of all foreign investment, which is led by the U.S., U.K. and West Germany. It has restricted itself mainly to transferring limited technology in the petrochemical fertiliser and consumer electronics areas.

Japanese companies dislike the country's bureaucratic restrictions, including its foreign ownership laws.

They have also doubted whether they could adapt efficient Japanese manufacturing practices in the relatively unstable Indian industrial environment with its erratic supplies, often poor labour relations, variable quality and somewhat lethargic management.

Now this attitude is slowly changing, with the automotive manufacturers leading the way.

They are being attracted by relaxations in India's industrial controls introduced in the past couple of years. They are also reacting — perhaps more significantly — to curtailment of their expansion in Europe and the U.S. This coincided with the Indian

government wanting rapidly to expand its automotive industry, updating technology at the same time and offering the prospect of a captive market.

The government's current five to 10 year plans envisage the country's current annual output of 600,000 vehicles being more than quadrupled to 2.5 million by 1989-90.

In the 10 years 1980-1990 the production of cars is intended to grow five times from present output levels of 31,000 a year to 150,000. No completely new car has been introduced nationally for some 20 years. The roads are full of adapted Morris Oxford from the 1950s and old Fiat 1100s.

The main growth will therefore come from an up-to-date Suzuki 800cc car with pick-up truck, van and mini-bus derivative to be built in partnership with Maruti, a state-owned company formed 10 years ago to choose and market a new car.

After a lot of agonising, the Indian government and Maruti became interested in Japanese cars last winter in preference to Renault and B.L. cars from Europe because of their size, fuel economy, and potential for introducing new technology and man-

agement methods into an outdated industry.

Suzuki then produced tenders which were so low—believed to be 50 per cent below the European competitors in some areas—that it won the contract.

Assembly of the car is to start in India during 1983 with sales of 20,000 vehicles planned for 1984, building up to 100,000-150,000 in five years or so.

To begin with, 30 per cent of the car—welding, painting, assembly, tyres, batteries, electric wiring, and finishing trim—is to be made in India.

The remaining 70 per cent will come from Japan.

Maruti then wants to assemble the engine in 1985 and fully manufacture it in 1986, so swinging the balance of manufacturing heavily over to India, which will also make other components.

Assuming this programme goes ahead, Maruti will soon have to decide where to buy components in India. Suzuki has a 26 per cent equity stake in the project which gives it a significant, if not decisive, say about where orders are placed to obtain an acceptable quality.

The Indian component industry is dominated by companies originating from the U.K., with

some from West Germany and elsewhere. Many are concentrated around Madras and Bangalore with companies such as Lucas, Dunlop, GKN and Bosch in part ownership.

These companies do not want to be driven out of a major part of the industry's expansion by Suzuki insisting on the creation of new separate suppliers.

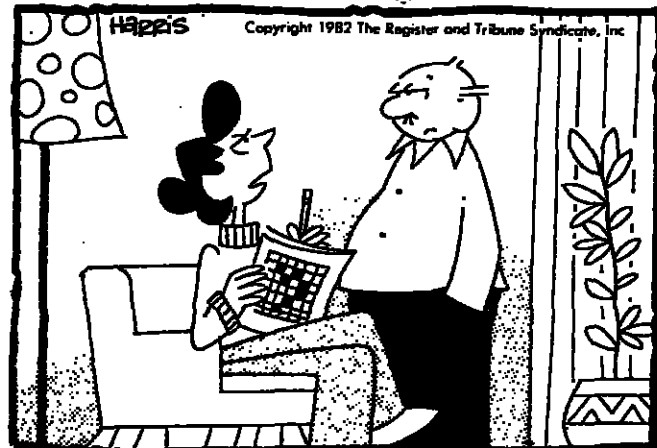
The ace in Suzuki's hand worries all the Indian industry. If it and the other Japanese companies are able to argue that the quality of Indian components is not high enough, there could be a virtually cast-iron case for the Japanese to refuse to switch manufacture gradually to India.

How Maruti and Suzuki handle the orders may set a pattern elsewhere in the industry.

Here India's macro plans envisage rapid expansion, including production of mopeds and small motorcycles, growing six times from 130,000 a year to 850,000 by 1990, production of scooters quadrupling from 214,000 to 800,000, motorcycles more than doubling from 104,000 to 350,000 and light commercial vehicles more than quadrupling from 17,000 to 75,000.

—Financial Times news features

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"I need a six-letter word for 'Worthless.' I tried 'spouse,' but it didn't fit."

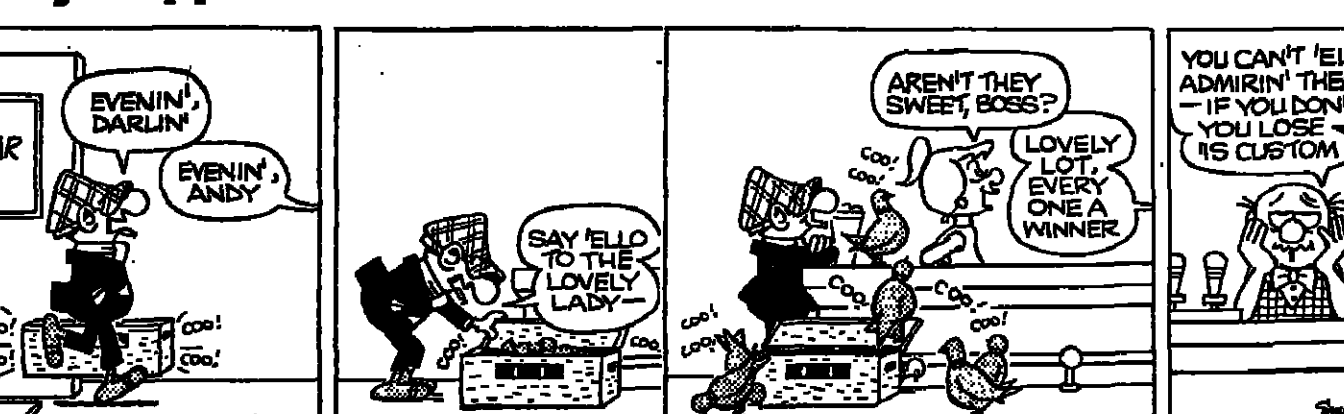
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR MONDAY, DEC. 27, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A fine day to bring your special capabilities to the attention of higher-ups and get excellent results. Make sure your activities are well organized. Show others you have wisdom.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Daytime is fine for being with persons who can help you advance in career matters. Strive for increased happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) There could be a delay in plans you have formulated, but this gives you the needed time to perfect details.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't be unpleasant with one who is unable to keep a promise right now. Show others that you can be relied upon.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Study how to improve your monetary status and seek advice you need. Be patient in handling a civic matter.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You may find it hard to get started on your work today, but persevere and you will get much accomplished. Be alert.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) You are now able to enjoy recreations that you've had little time for in the past. Your creative ideas need expression.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Attend to those duties that must be done early in the day for best results. Show more interest in outside activities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Talks with associates can produce excellent results now. You are able to communicate very well with others today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study your money situation well and take steps to improve it. Be sure to keep important promises you've made.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are thinking very clearly now and can easily advance in your line of endeavor. Stop wasting so much time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Engage in profitable activities early in the day so you will have time for recreation later. Be more optimistic.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Endeavor to make your work more modern and streamlined. Follow your intuition and express your finest talents.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who likes to please and entertain others, so be sure to direct education along artistic lines for best results. There's a fine balance of mind and physical activity in this chart. Sports are a must here.

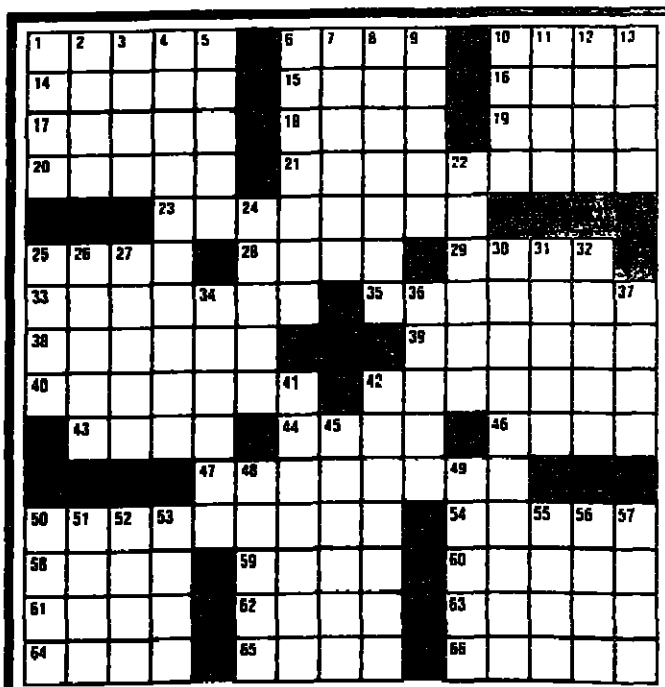
"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Dan Skelley

ACROSS	28 Fair attraction	50 Marked by stately beauty	24 Scottish dish
1 Peasants	29 Arabian garments	54 Eastern prince	25 Computa. for short
6 Jolts	33 Mist of sorts	58 In — (successively)	26 Kindled anew
10 Burlesque bit	35 Bubbly beverage	59 Bulrush	27 Imitate Cicero
14 Blue city	38 Beasts of burden	60 Napoleon's fate	30 Cantankerous old women
15 Russian city	39 A pretty — of fish	61 Stringed instrument	31 In a suitable way
16 Screen	40 Stronghold	62 See 51 D	32 Cobbler, at times
17 Like a rookie	42 Executed a chess maneuver	63 Word with water or musk	34 Burden
18 Exploding star	43 Watch	64 Quizzes	36 Giraffe-like animal
19 Still life subject	44 Nipa palm	65 Sea eagles	37 Ending for centi or milli
20 Allays	46 Stringed instrument	66 Park in Colorado	41 Varnish
21 Daily	47 Certain candy		42 Lurches
23 Myth shatterer			45 French port
25 Something unpleasant to eat			48 Fiber for rope

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

WISPER	PAICA	ALMA
ADDIE	REED	TAILL
DOUBLE	NOTHING	
ILLS	ROOT	NIEDDA
ELTA	SPRAN	
BORIAL	SIP	INDORA
AGELA	HOED	LAC
DOUBLE	INDEMNITY	
GRIN	SWEET	FAVIES
SECONDS	TRIP	PIEST
ARDMA	PILAR	CAISE
DOUBLE	NEGATIVES	
ESTA	ACINE	STEEP
NIST	READ	PIERRY



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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: " " " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LURID FAUNA ALKALI GOVERN
Answer: What a "pedestrian" sort of play is unlikely to have—A LONG RUN

WORLD

Pravda signals thaw in Sino-Soviet ties

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party daily Pravda Sunday published an unusually warm message from the Chinese government which diplomats said indicated a degree of willingness to continue normalisation talks.

The message headed a series of greetings to Kremlin leaders from other countries and parties on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, and included a rare reference to "the great Soviet peoples".

The message said: "China sincerely hopes to bring about gradual normalisation and establish good-neighbour relations between our countries".

This, it said, would help develop traditional friendship between the Soviet and Chinese peoples and would be in the interests of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

"Both sides must take practical steps to remove obstacles by means of consultations, applying

joint efforts to achieve this goal", Pravda quoted the message as saying.

Main obstacles to normal relations between Moscow and Peking are the presence of more than one million Soviet troops along the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Mongolian borders, the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and its support for Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea.

Western diplomats said the reference to "joint efforts" might indicate Peking was no longer insisting that only the Soviet side would have to make some conciliatory move.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping was quoted last month as saying talks between the two countries would go on if Moscow acted on just one of China's grievances. A hint of the Kremlin's readiness to compromise came from Viktor Afanasyev, the editor of Pravda, when he told Japanese

journalists in Moscow after the funeral of President Brezhnev that it was possible the two sides might agree to a joint reduction of troops along their border.

Diplomats see this as the easiest of the obstacles to overcome. Elsewhere the gulf appears as wide as ever.

Last week the official Soviet news agency TASS published a fierce attack on China which condemned Peking inclusion of the Kampuchean question among conditions for an improvement in ties with Moscow.

On Afghanistan, Pravda has said troops will be withdrawn only if "foreign interference" ended and guarantees were given that it would not resume.

Soviet Communist Party chief Yuri Andropov has pledged to continue efforts initiated by the late Mr. Brezhnev to improve his country's relations with Peking

after 20 years of bitter feuding.

In his first major policy statement as leader, Mr. Andropov had friendly words for Peking. He said Moscow was looking carefully for every response to its overtures and declared it was time to overcome "the inertia of prejudices" between the two countries.

Last month, in the highest-level meeting between the two governments since 1969, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and his Chinese counterpart agreed to continue a political dialogue aimed at normalising relations.

The last formal session of normalisation talks was held in Peking in October this year.

Diplomats said the warmth of the message published Sunday appeared to confirm a degree of willingness in both Peking and Moscow to continue normalisation talks.

Beirut's National Museum cleaned up



Lebanese workers clean up the debris of seven years of warfare from the steps of the National

Museum in Beirut which was located on the mid-city dividing line. (A.P. wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man dies in prison riot in Virginia

PETERSBURG, Virginia (R) — A maintenance worker was stabbed to death and several prisoners were injured Saturday during fighting involving up to 100 inmates, a prison spokesman said. He said the 45-minute-long melee at the federal jail here began in the dining room at the end of breakfast and soon spilled outside. Its cause was unknown. The inmates used chairs, cutlery and other objects in the fight, prison officials said. The fighting was quelled by prison guards and off-duty employees, the prison spokesman said.

3 adults, 3 children suffocate in Spain

LA CORUNA, Spain (R) — Six people including three children suffocated to death in a blazing houseboat in this northwest Spanish port Saturday, police sources said. A couple both aged 31, their children aged nine, five and two, and a man friend aged 48 who joined them for Christmas were trapped in the moored fishing vessel, the sources said. A paramilitary Civil Guard saw the fire and shot open the cabin door, finding only the nine-year-old boy alive. The boy died on the way to hospital. The fire, which filled the boat with thick smoke, was probably started by a faulty stove, the sources said.

FBI arrests Saudi billionaire's brother

WASHINGTON (R) — A man described by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member of the Saudi Arabian royal family was arrested here after he allegedly tried to sell a stolen \$1.2 million ring to undercover agents. An FBI spokesman said Ali Al Fassi met undercover agents to sell them a ring containing a 22.7 carat emerald and 16 diamonds. The spokesman said it was stolen last April from the Harry Winston, INC., jewellery firm in South Florida. Fassi was charged with the interstate transportation of stolen property, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. Press reports in Miami said that Fassi was the 21-year-old younger brother of Mohammed Ali Fassi, a reputed billionaire who was in the centre of a major controversy earlier this year in Florida.

More poisoned drugs found in L. Angeles

LOS ANGELES (R) — Federal authorities investigating seven deaths caused by cyanide-contaminated painkillers have discovered the poison in 10 more capsules in the Los Angeles area, a medical spokesman said. They found 10 cyanide-laced Anacin-3 capsules in a bottle with the same code number as another bottle which caused a San Jose, California, housewife to fall ill in November, he said. He said the capsules, which did not contain enough poison to cause death, were tested after a woman in the small Los Angeles county town of San Pedro heard of the San Jose case and handed over a bottle of Anacin-3 which she had bought on Dec. 8.

3 Filipino opposition party men arrested

CEBU, Philippines (R) — Three members of a Philippines opposition party were arrested Saturday in a Christmas day raid on a house here, military officials said. Officials refused to give other details on the arrest of Ribomapp Holganza, secretary-general of the Filipino Democratic Party (PDP) in the central region of Visayas, his son Ribomapp and Dr. Ramon Alberca in Cebu city 560 kilometres southeast of Manila. Nina Daluz, a PDP member who went to the camps where they were held for questioning, said she had not been able to see them. She said officials also would not comment on a local radio report that about seven others were arrested with Mr. Holganza. Witnesses said

Attack on extremists marks Mao's birthday

PEKING (R) — China marked the 89th anniversary of the birth of Mao Tse-tung Sunday with an attack on extreme leftists still opposed to moderate policies implemented since the chairman's death.

The Communist Party newspaper People's Daily said: "Some comrades even now do not fully understand why the party line, direction and policies...are completely correct, or why the people of the entire country enthusiastically support them."

The paper was commenting on the publication of 17 articles and speeches by Mao, two of them for the first time. It did not refer directly to the anniversary of his birth.

One of the newly-reprinted articles includes the slogan "without investigating a matter, you have no right to speak about it," a favourite saying of pragmatists such as China's present strongman, Deng Xiaoping.

The slogan was rarely heard in the last years of Mao's life, when dogmatic extreme leftists took control with the chairman's blessing. How to evaluate Mao's contribution to the Chinese revolution has been one of the most sensitive problems facing Mr. Deng and his associates since his death in 1976.

Last year, after intense debate, the party published a definitive appraisal which declared that Mao's merits outweighed his faults, but strongly attacked him for wildly unrealistic policies in the last 20 years of his life.

Since the document was published in June 1981, little direct cri-

ticism of Mao has appeared in the official press, apparently as part of a deal between pragmatists led by Mr. Deng and his opponents who feel attacks on the chairman went too far.

Despite the "de-Maoisation" of the past few years, leftist influence remains strong in some areas and the press often attacks unrepentant Maoists for failing to support reformist policies.

Many of the leftists are believed to be members of the politically-influential People's Liberation Army (PLA) who feel the present leadership has betrayed Maoist ideals.

Zimbabwean gunmen kill 3 civilians, hurt several

HARARE (R) — Three people were killed and several wounded when gunmen ambushed travellers on a major highway and railway on Christmas Eve, police said Sunday.

A statement said an undisclosed number of Zimbabwean dissidents opened fire indiscriminately on vehicles and a train travelling on the main road and rail line between Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second city, and Gweru, its third largest town.

The attack is the latest in a series of violent incidents in the restive western province of Matabeleland.

Police said the attack took place at 9.30 p.m. on Friday when gunmen stopped three buses, a removal lorry and several cars 95

kilometres north of Bulawayo.

They opened fire, killing two people and wounding others, the statement said. The gunmen assaulted and robbed passengers and bystanders, set alight to the buses and lorry and then fired at the scheduled passenger train, hitting a woman inside.

The statement did not say whether the woman was the third fatality and gave no further details of the incident.

Security sources estimate about 100 people, all but 10 of them blacks, have been killed in the past 10 months by gunmen said by the government to be renegade guerrillas from the Rhodesian civil war which preceded independence in 1980.

Christmas means little in post-revolutionary Cuba

HAVANA (R) — Christmas is a non-event in Cuba, where the government decreed, 10 years ago, that it interfered too much with the vital sugar harvest here.

No flashing lights, no carol choirs, no trace of Santa Claus nor even of Christmas advertising to liven the diet of state radio and television programmes.

"It's a non-holiday here," an office worker said. "I'll go to church — but most people don't even celebrate Christmas any more."

And the official Cuban response to a "Merry Christmas" greeting from Western diplomats and friends is "happy new year" — for while Christmas lost its way in revolutionary Cuba's festive calendar, the new year coincides with the anniversary of Fidel Castro's victory on Jan. 1, 1959 — and it remains a national holiday.

Even so, Christmas services at the cathedral of Havana, where Christopher Columbus's bones

were once deposited, will probably attract a standing room only crowd.

"We don't know how many of the people who attend the service are religious since we don't see them around the rest of the year," said a seminary student who takes part. "I think many of them come to hear our small chorus and to soak up the exquisite atmosphere in this church."

And Christmas will still be Christmas in the private homes, in other churches, in the homes run by religious institutions and amongst the Western diplomatic and press corps.

Cuba moved the Christmas festivities back to July 10 years ago because it caused too much absenteeism in the sugar mills at the height of the harvest season. Now the government has institutionalised it by distributing toys that month on an officially decreed "children's day."

Vulcan bomber retires from Falklands War into museum

By Leslie Dowd
Reuters

LONDON — The Vulcan bomber, relieved during the Falklands War to fly its first hostile missions in 25 years with the British air force, has been withdrawn from frontline service.

In a ceremonial farewell last week four Vulcans were scrambled to fly over a string of air force bases which once had been home to the big V-bombers dubbed the "flying triangles".

The four-engined Vulcan, built by Hawker Siddely, was a revolutionary aircraft when it made its maiden flight 30 years ago as the world's first delta-winged bomber. It went into service with the air force in 1957 and was finally being sidelined earlier this year when the Falklands conflict intervened.

The Vulcan was pressed into hostile action for the first time after Argentine troops captured

Two V-bombers flew separate night raids from a mid-Atlantic base on Ascension Island to try to deny Argentine forces the use of the only airport at the capital, Port Stanley.

Their mission was to blow craters in the runway with 450 kilogramme bombs but they were only partly successful.

The first Vulcan left one big hole in the 1,300-metre airstrip but the second missed and daring Argentine pilots still flew Hercules transport planes in at night. Nevertheless the 13-hour round-trip of 11,000 kilometres from Ascension, with refuelling by Victor air tankers, was a notable aviation achievement.

A third Vulcan, however, was forced to land in Brazil short of fuel after missing a rendezvous with a tanker.

Last week's ceremonial flight was led by one of the planes from the Stanley raids which will now be parked at the gate of West-

1965 and 48 remain in existence. Some had already been sold for scrap or earmarked for military museums in April when Argentina seized the Falklands.

The Vulcan's bomb bay, built to carry a nuclear payload, were hastily converted to take conventional bombs — three sticks of seven 1,000-pound bombs.

And, instead of training on the new supersonic Tornado strike jets, Vulcan crews found themselves practising air refuelling and bombing runs over the North Sea.

Technicians hunted down abandoned refuelling nozzles and found two in a scrapyard, they stripped a third from a Vulcan in a museum at California's Castle Air base.

The Vulcan made its maiden flight at the Farnborough air show in 1952 — the year Queen Elizabeth ascended the throne.

Designers began working on the forerunner to the Vulcan as soon as the World War II ended. They

born out of the war.

Farnborough show-stopper

The Vulcan prototype produced by Avro Aviation, long since a part of state-owned British Aerospace, was a show-stopper at Farnborough, able to fly at 15,000 metres at 1,000 kilometres an hour.

Avro chief test pilot R.J. "Roy" Falk put the 80-tonne aircraft through a slow roll, an aerobatic stunt not previously associated with bombers.

The Vulcan, with a wing span of 29.6 metres, was capable of carrying a nuclear bomb 2,800 kilometres to target.

Radar spells trouble

But in 1967 the Vulcan lost its prime role as the standard bearer of Britain's strategic nuclear deterrent to a new fleet of four nuclear submarines, which could launch Polaris intercontinental

defence chiefs to accept that the Vulcan had little hope of reaching its target unless it dodged under enemy radar — so the white bombers were repainted in green and grey camouflage.

Vulcans still had plenty of service ahead of them, however. They were redeployed as tactical nuclear strike jets that in wartime would bomb mass troop formations and enemy rear areas.

This role is now being taken over by the swing-wing Tornado multi-role jet, developed by Britain, West Germany and Italy.

Britain has ordered 385 of these versatile super-jets which can deliver nuclear bombs as well as act as conventional ground-attack planes and fighter-interceptors.

In their long life, Vulcans were also used for reconnaissance, North Sea oil rig patrols and as flying testbeds.

Even now, six are being converted into refuelling tankers as a